

IN THE CLAIMS:

All the claims currently pending in this application, although they are not being amended herein, have been reproduced below for the Examiner's convenience.

SUB (1)

1. A communication apparatus comprising:
reception means for receiving images generated from a plurality of communication terminals;
output means for outputting the images received by said reception means in order to display the images on a display unit as multiple images; and
notification means for acquiring and notifying a state of reception of the images by said reception means while said reception means is receiving the images.

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2. A communication apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the state of reception is information relating to a frame rate of an image being received by said reception means.

3. A communication apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said notification means changes the display unit in accordance with the state of reception by said reception means.

4. A communication apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said notification means changes information displayed on the display unit in accordance with a frame rate of an image received by said reception means.

5. A communication apparatus according to Claim 3, wherein the change in information displayed on the display unit is a change in a state of display of an icon indicating a corresponding one of the plurality of communication terminals.

6. A communication apparatus according to Claim 4, wherein said notification means does not perform notification when the frame rate is high, and performs notification when the frame rate is reduced.

7. A communication apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said notification means comprises one of flashing of an icon, display of character information, and display of numerals.

8. A communication method comprising the steps of:
receiving images generated from a plurality of communication terminals;
outputting the received images in order to display the images on a display unit as multiple images; and
acquiring and notifying a state of reception of the images in said receiving step while performing said receiving step.

9. A communication method according to Claim 8, wherein the state of reception is information relating to a frame rate of an image being received.

10. A communication method according to Claim 8, wherein said acquiring and notifying step changes the display unit in accordance with the state of reception.

11. A communication method according to Claim 8, wherein said acquiring and notifying step changes information displayed on the display unit in accordance with a frame rate of a received image.

12. A communication method according to Claim 10, wherein the change in information displayed on the display unit is a change in a state of display of an icon indicating a corresponding one of the plurality of communication terminals.

13. A communication method according to Claim 11, wherein the notification is not performed when the frame rate is high, and is performed when the frame rate is reduced.

14. A communication method according to Claim 8, wherein the notification comprises one of flashing of an icon, display of character information, and display of numerals.

15. A communication apparatus comprising:

reception means for receiving a part or all of images generated from image generation units of a plurality of corresponding communication terminals by switching the images;

output means for outputting the images received by said reception means in order to display the images on a display unit as multiple images;

assigning means for assigning an arbitrary image from among the multiple images;

control means for controlling a state of outputting of the image assigned by said assigning means; and

notification means for acquiring and notifying a state of reception of the images by said reception means while said reception means is receiving the images.

16. A communication apparatus according to Claim 15, wherein the state of reception is information relating to a frame rate of an image being received by said reception means.

17. A communication apparatus according to Claim 15, wherein said notification means changes the display unit in accordance with the state of reception by said reception means.

18. A communication apparatus according to Claim 15, wherein said notification means changes information displayed on the display unit in accordance with a frame rate of an image received by said reception means.

19. A communication apparatus according to Claim 17, wherein the change in information displayed on the display unit is a change in a state of display of an icon indicating a corresponding one of the plurality of communication terminals.

20. A communication apparatus according to Claim 18, wherein said notification means does not perform notification when the frame rate is high, and performs notification when the frame rate is reduced.

21. A communication apparatus according to Claim 15, wherein said notification means comprises one of flashing of an icon, display of character information, and display of numerals.

22. A communication method comprising the steps of:

- receiving a part or all of images generated from image generation units of a plurality of corresponding communication terminals by switching the images;
- outputting the received images in order to display the images on a display unit as multiple images;
- assigning an arbitrary image from among the multiple images;

controlling a state of outputting of the assigned image; and
acquiring and notifying a state of reception of the images in said receiving
step while performing said reception step.

23. A communication method according to Claim 22, wherein the state of
reception is information relating to a frame rate of an image being received.

24. A communication method according Claim 22, wherein said acquiring and
notifying step changes the display unit in accordance with the state of reception.

25. A communication method according to Claim 22, wherein said acquiring
and notifying step changes information displayed on the display unit in accordance with a
frame rate of a received image.

26. A communication method according to Claim 24, wherein the change in
information displayed on the display unit is a change in a state of display of an icon
indicating a corresponding one of the plurality of communication terminals .

27. A communication method according to Claim 25, wherein the notification is
not performed when the frame rate is high, and is performed when the frame rate is
reduced.

28. A communication method according to Claim 22, wherein the notification comprises one of flashing of an icon, display of character information, and display of numerals.

29. A storage medium storing a program, said program comprising:
reception process code for receiving images generated from a plurality of communication terminals;
output process code for outputting the received images in order to display the images on a display unit as multiple images; and
notification process code for acquiring and notifying a state of reception of the images by said reception process code while said reception process code is receiving the images.

30. A storage medium storing a program, said program comprising:
reception process code for receiving a part or all of images generated from image generation units of a plurality of corresponding communication terminals by switching the images;
an output process code for outputting the received images in order to display the images on a display unit as multiple images;
an assigning process code for assigning an arbitrary image from among the multiple images;
control process code of controlling a state for outputting of the assigned